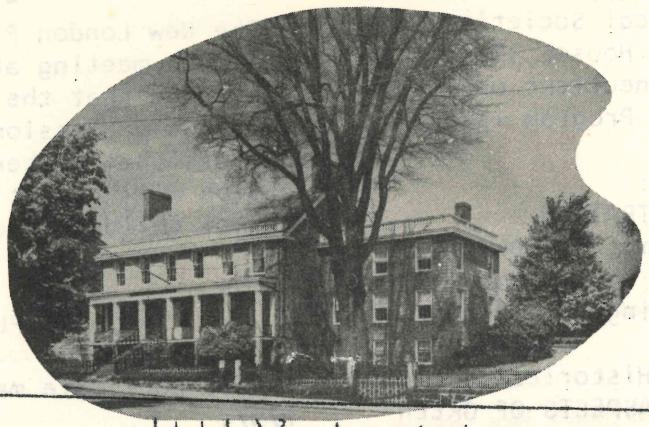
New London County Historical Society

11 Blinman Street SHAW MANSION New London, Conn.

STACKS



Quarterly Bulletin

VOLUME 11 JULY 1965 NUMBER 3

OUR GOALS

Every organization should frequently review its aims and accomplishments. This affords not only an opportunity to appraise progress in present projects, but also to consider the adoption of other projects as the need for action arises.

Our Society has the very important duty of caring for the maintenance of the Shaw Mansion together with the upkeep and beautification of the grounds.

It must also be ready to provide tours of the Mansion for groups and individuals conducted by well-informed guides.

We should be in a position to aid with our research and advice when called upon by the City Fathers or by some local organization.

Support should be given to the Connecticut League of Historical Societies. The League is able to obtain speakers at its meetings who give information much needed by member societies. In many instances these speakers are beyond the reach of local societies. Also, an exchange of ideas is readily available on problems that members have in common.

To aid the researchers who visit us, we have the duty to complete our cataloging and keep it up to date. We need also to improve our resources by careful acquisition of books and documents.

Contact with our members should be maintained by the issue of a bulletin at least four times a year containing an account of the work and needs of the Society accompanied by interesting historical material.

A lecture series by speakers well-versed in various historical subjects would add a very worthwhile project to our activities.

Every effort should be made to add interested and able people to our membership. This is an important item in connection with the realization of our aims.

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The New London Garden Club has added much to the appearance of our grounds by planting pachysandra in the plot to the south of our front entrance.

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LECTURE SERIES

By the date of our Annual Meeting, arrangements should be completed so that announcement may be made regarding two fall lectures. If attendance shows that there is sufficient interest in such a series, two more will be planned for the spring season.

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SUMMER MEETING of CONNECTICUT LEAGUE

The Greenwich Historical Society is the host for the Summer Meeting of the Connecticut League of Historical Societies to be held at the Bush-Holley House, 39 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, Connecticut on Saturday, July 31, 1965. The Program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION:

10:00 - 10:30 REGISTRATION
10:30 - 10:35 Welcome, Mr. Dwight C. Lyman, Pres.
10:35 - 10:40 Greeting, Mr. Anson C. Lowitz, Pres. Greenwich Historical Society
10:40 - 10:50 "SOME ASPECTS OF GREENWICH HISTORY" - Mr. Wm. E. Finch, Jr. Curator and Historian, Greenwich Historical Society
10:50 - 11:20 "THROUGH ENGLAND IN SEARCH OF ANCESTORS" - Mr. Anson C. Lowitz
11:20 - 12:00 CONCURRENT DISCUSSIONS:
#1 - Public Relations
#2 - Indexing Current History
12:00 - 1:15 Luncheon Hour - Members bring box lunches - dessert and coffee served by Host Society

AFTERNOON SESSION:

1:15 - 1:45 BUSINESS SESSION
1:45 - 2:25 "MILLSTONE POINT" - Mr. Wm. F. Saars, East Lyme Historical Society; Publicity Chairman for the League
2:30 -- Visit Bush-Holley House

Any of our members planning to attend please notify our office in order that we may tell the Greenwich Society how many to expect.

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NATHAN HALE SCHOOLHOUSE

The Lucretia Shaw Chapter of the D.A.R. is opening the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse next to Bulkeley Junior High School on Huntington Street every Tuesday and Thursday during July and August. The hours are 2 to 4 P.M. The building is owned by the Connecticut Society, S.A.R.

After removal to its new site, this old school where Nathan Hale taught was restored to its original design. Many artifacts and documents of historic interest are on view.

The southern New England zone meeting of the Garden Club of America held in New London on June 16th included in its program a visit by conference delegates to the Shaw Mansion.

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The New London P.T.A. Council held its May 24th meeting at the Shaw Mansion. It was hoped that the visit to the Mansion by these professional educators, and non-professional members interested in education will result in increased visits by school children accompanied by teachers.

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PURCHASES

Amos Doolittle map of Connecticut, dated 1797.

Two tax rebate certificates from the State to Pember Caulkins, 1789.

A letter to the Comptroller of Connecticut, from the New London listers, dated 1813.

A Hartford-New London Turnpike road-statement of fees, 1856.

Deed to land in Norwich, from Oliver Arnold to John Watrous, 1755.

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GIFTS

Hitchcock commode, given by Mrs. W. R. Frisbie.

A tinted engraving of New London Harbor seen from what is now Mitchell College Beach, given by Mrs. Clifford Belden.

"New London Historical Society
Attention: Mr. Carlton Small
New London, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Small: The One Hundreth rowing of the Yale-Harvard Regatta took place on the Thames River in New London on June 19th of this year.

The Friends of Harvard Rowing and the Yale Crew Association made funds available to the Regatta Committee for the establishment of the F. Valentine Chappell Memorial Trophy, to be awarded annually to the winner of the Junior Varsity Race. Harvard won the event this first year. The late Mr. Chappell was a member of the Regatta Committee from 1899 through 1961, serving as Chairman from 1904 to 1909 and again from 1915 through 1940. From 1940 until 1961 he was honorary chairman of this classic event. The service and wisdom he gave to the Regatta is one of the brightest

pages in the proud athletic history of both Yale and Harvard.

To commemorate this milestone in the history of collegiate rowing, small bronze medallions of this trophy were presented by the Regatta Committee to each of the Yale and Harvard oarsmen who rowed in either the combination freshman, junior varsity or varsity race this year.

It is the pleasure of the Committee to present a medallion to the New London Historical Society, in the hopes that it will be occasionally and appropriately displayed with similar memorabilia of the New London area.

Sincerely yours,

R. B. Chappell, Jr.
Member, Yale-Harvard
Regatta Committee"

The Historical Society was very pleased to receive one of these medallions from Mr.R. B. Chappell, Jr.

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In an effort to have some of our documents included in the cataloging program of the Library of Congress, a questionaire from the Library has been completed and forwarded. Information sent in referred to our Caulkins, Shaw, and Stark papers, New London Town and County Records, and ship logs.

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Members are encouraged to submit items for publication in the "Bulletin" in order that we may make the issues as interesting, informative, and comprehensive as possible.

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On May 25, 1965, "The Day" noted the election of Ernest E. Rogers as a vice-president of the Connecticut Historical Society on May 25, 1940.

Also on June 17, 1965, "The Day" recalled the past by stating that Ernest E. Rogers of the New London Historical Society conducted the Westerly Historical Society on a tour of the Groton area on June 17, 1915.

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A sign has been placed on Perkins Green particularly for the convenience of out-of-town visitors looking for the Shaw Mansion.

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ANNUAL MEETING

For the Annual Meeting of our Society at the Mohican Hotel on September 28th, we have been very fortunate to obtain Dr. Charles Shain, President of Connecticut College as speaker for the occasion. Notification of this meeting will be mailed at a later date. It is hoped that this early information will allow a large number of our members to set this date aside for attendance.

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MEMBERSHIP

Once again each member is urged to hand in the names of any persons who might be interested in the aims of our Society in order that they may be approached for membership. Names should be sent to Mr. Oscar Seaholm, Membership Chairman, 11 Blinman Street, New London, Connecticut, or phone Mrs. Knox at 443-1209.

By taking just a few minutes, our present members could be of great help in this important matter.

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Members of the Historical Society are cordially invited to attend the Constitution Day Dinner sponsored by the New England Society of the S.A.R., to be held at the Griswold Hotel on September 17th. Social hour is at 6:00 P.M., and dinner at 7:00 P.M. Former Governor Raymond E. Baldwin will be the guest speaker.

Tickets for the dinner are $5.50. Reservations may be sent to Carlton F. Small, 19 West Street, New London, Conn.

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Custodian in residence:
Mrs. Charles Menery

Secretary and Curator:
Mrs. Adam Knox

The Society's telephone number is:
443-1209

From The New London County Historical
Society, Shaw Mansion
11 Blinman Street
New London, Connecticut
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Miss Marion S. Clarke
228 Williams Street
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